

To: Paisley North West and Central Local Partnership

On: 15 June 2021

Report by:
Chief Executive, Renfrewshire Council

TITLE:
**Paisley North West and Central Local Partnership Budget Monitoring Report
and 20/21 Funding Application Feedback**

1. Summary

- 1.1 Paisley North West and Central Local Partnership provides funding to community groups to undertake projects. This funding is allocated from the General Grant Fund and, through a Participating Budgeting exercise known as Celebrating Renfrewshire, the Youth Challenge Fund.
- 1.2 A table setting out the funds allocated by Paisley North West and Central Local Partnership in 2020/21 and current budget position is attached as an appendix to this report.
- 1.3 Feedback from projects receiving funding in 20/21 on the outcome of projects is also attached. Due to the impact of Covid 19 on the ability of groups to successfully deliver projects, some groups have returned funding to the Local Partnership, as a result of restrictions in place over the period.. In recognition of this situation it has been agreed that Local Partnership underspends in 2020/21 will be carried forward and added to the budget for 2021/22. For 2021/22, the normal arrangements will apply, requiring all funding to be spent by the end of the financial year with no provision for carry over to the following year.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the budget monitoring report and feedback from recipients of funding in 2020/21 be noted.

3. Feedback From 2020/21 Grant Recipients

- 3.1 Feedback on the use of Paisley North West and Central Local Partnership funding allocated in 2020/21 was received from eighteen organisations.

17. Mossvale Community Church

The award was for sewing workshops for asylum seekers, refugees and migrants living in Renfrewshire with little or no English language skills.

The award was spent as originally intended, our running costs, and with the impact of Covid (we were closed from March-July and closed again towards the end of November (we are still closed) this funding has been vital to us. We have tried to keep going with projects via the internet, eg zoom chats with local kids and a class visit remotely through google teams.

55 households participated in the projects, mothers and grandmothers with 70 children also taking part in some sewing projects. In the last year we have not had any members stop participating or disengage.

2. Paisley and District Boys Brigade Battalion Administration.

The Boys Brigade received funding from Paisley North West and Central and other Local Partnerships to run events and for Battalion Headquarters running costs. Funding enabled staff to maintain the Headquarters building and prepare it to be ready to open and function fully once lockdown restrictions eased.

3. Meikleriggs Cricket Foundation

Our project sought funding to enable cricket coaching to be available to the community. The funding enabled us to provide a qualified cricket coach, when COVID restrictions allowed. Sessions encouraged people of all ages and abilities to take part outdoors in an activity which enhanced their physical and mental health and wellbeing.

We reached a total of 100 people – mainly for the Paisley partnerships. The community were able to attend structured and covid friendly sessions to take part in physical activity. This was vital at a time when gyms etc were closed.

4. Walking Tours On Wheels

Help with office running costs, signage, information leaflets and display stands.

We are delighted to update you on how our funding was spent. Firstly we would like to thank Renfrewshire Council's Local Partnership for providing us with funding in the first place, which was paid into our bank account on 14 January 2021. You worked with us to help us properly complete the forms and we really appreciate this support.

COVID Pandemic and subsequent lockdown has directed the need for change in terms of how we operate our service and plan ahead. For example, we have needed

to invest purchasing small laptops in order for our operation to continue to work remotely as we were unable to access our office premise, therefore there was no face to face contact. This has resulted in all of us i.e. Trustees, and Volunteers, hardware and software to continue to provide our service which we know people still want, given their feedback. This has also enabled us to significantly improve our social media presence.

We have drafted a 24 page booklet complete with local historical landmarks and linked with local charities and Paisley First to help us approach local businesses, asking for sponsorship, for example, a business or a charity will sponsor a page and advertise their own services as well. This is almost ready for print, and when complete will be distributed to the widest possible catchment area via social media, schools, local businesses, public buildings, information stands etc.

Whilst the full amount has not been spent as yet, we have a residual amount of money left to ensure that we are able to gain sponsorship feedback to enable us to print our booklet. We anticipate this will happen when we are able to get back to our office in April.

The wider community has benefited as we have been delivering information on social media to keep everyone involved with the history of the town and tours that will be available once lockdown is over and it is safe to go out on tours. We managed to fit some tours in between both lockdowns and each tour was very well attended with social distancing in place. We also had Santa sit in our office/unit in the Paisley Centre where the kids could come and give Santa a wave without having contact, the kids were just so happy and excited to see Santa even though it was at a distance.

5.Finding Your Feet

We applied for part-funding of £10,000 (11.3% of total cost) from Renfrewshire Council Local Area Partnerships to help fund the expansion of the social and emotional support FYF provides.

Our social and emotional programmes are well established and deliver a positive difference to our growing amputee community.

The activities we applied for funding for was:

- Amputee Teas – our social drop-in sessions,
- Hobby clubs – such as crafts and board games,
- Counselling,
- Meditation,
- Yoga,
- Massage,
- Stress Management workshops.

We are very grateful that we were awarded £3,316 (30% of our request), but with a lower amount granted we allocated the funding to three activities; counselling, online fitness and online meditation.

Our application was submitted prior to the first lockdown in March 2020 before we knew we would have to redesign the delivery of our services. Prior to the pandemic, we relied on face-to-face delivery for around 85% of the support we provide and those

cited in our application were hosted at St James House. At the start of the pandemic, we quickly regrouped and set about creating virtual clubs and activities which would continue to meet our charitable purposes of tackling isolation and loneliness and improve the health and wellbeing of our amputee community.

Whilst we were able to recreate/reimagine many of our activities virtually, one of the biggest issues we had was low engagement amongst a largely aging community who were unfamiliar with online activities (75% of our community are aged 55+). It took a lot of staff resource to work with our Troopers on trial sessions and bags of encouragement to build up the number of attendees. Those who would still not engage online were reached via 'Check-in Calls' to reduce isolation and provide support via telephone.

Emergency funding from the Scottish Government's Wellbeing Fund covered a large proportion of our programme redesign and delivery costs during the early months of the pandemic. Therefore, our funding from the Local Partnership Fund was condensed across a fewer number of activities for maximum effectiveness. These were counselling, online fitness and online meditation.

The number of people who benefit from our support is continually increasing – through a combination of increased awareness and additional referral routes. During the pandemic, the number of individuals we were supporting increased by 130 new Troopers joining FYF, bringing our current total of beneficiaries to 809.

Of these, 66 Troopers reside in PA postcodes, with 40% of these living in Paisley and 30% of these living in PA3.

During the last 12 months, we delivered a total of 444 virtual sessions, 35% of these were social activities such as online Ampu-Teas, quizzes and gigs, 18% of these were emotional activities such as Wellbeing Wednesdays which focused on promoting meditation, regular sleep, nutrition, stress management etc.

The total number of engagements for these sessions was 18,177.

6. West End Growing Grounds Association

The award was requested to allow prolonged access to the Community Garden. 68 people have benefited from the project and it has allowed them more time to grow their own food and to socialise with other members.

7. Royal British Legion Pipe Band

The award was requested to help fund the re-generation of Paisley and District pipe band by purchasing musical instruments, practice equipment and facilitating the inclusion of those in the community who may not otherwise be able to afford to get involved in a band or learn a traditional musical instrument.

The money was spent as intended, but some changes to our original ideas came about due to the Covid pandemic. The biggest change was that because we couldn't practice or give lessons in our hall in the usual way we had to set up an online Zoom lesson

format which proved very successful and will hopefully soon seamlessly blend into our usual form of tuition. Musical instruments were sterilised before being delivered to anyone.

8. Friends of Barshaw Park

The award was requested to improve the amenities of the park, bring people in the community of all ages and backgrounds together to work together, learn new skills and welcome new residents to the area.

We bought bird houses, nesting boxes, bird feeders and kits to build birdhouses and feeders. We printed information leaflets and charts.

We created a welcome pack which was delivered to new housing in the area. The pack contained a "Welcome to Barshaw Park" letter, and a wooden token, which we invited recipients to decorate or write a message on, and hang from one of the laurel trees in the Walled Peace Garden in Barshaw Park.

We bought craft materials and created Easter Craft packs which were distributed to local children and community groups, and schools and invited them to create decorations to display in the Walled Peace Garden.

We had originally intended to deliver workshops in the Walled Peace Garden for local people and families to build birdboxes and learn about wild birds, and to deliver other craft workshops.

The pandemic meant that we could not deliver the sessions in person and in the park as we had intended, so we a system to deliver the projects at virtually.

Our work with the Mirin Group, an organisation for young adults who have learning difficulties, had to be put on hold as the group could not meet during the pandemic.

Paisley North West and Central: We reached over 100 households in Hawkhead with our Welcome Packs.

Paisley Abbey Scouts, and over 20 households in Hawkhead, Greenlaw, and Town Centre took part in the Birdwatch project

Paisley East: 20 Households in Paisley East took part in the birdwatch project.

The Birdwatch project was extremely popular and we distributed over 200 kits and birdhouses to households in Paisley and wider Renfrewshire. Some families were issued with both ready made birdhouses and children's kits.

Our Welcome Packs invited residents to visit Barshaw Park to enjoy it's amenities and also to join and volunteer with Friends of Barshaw Park.

We have recruited several new volunteers of different ages and backgrounds to work in the Walled Garden, and more people have joined our committee and made connections with others in the community.

People have learned new skills and developed and shared their knowledge of gardening, and have a sense in achievement in seeing the Walled Peace Garden looking beautiful with a peaceful and welcoming atmosphere. Visitors to the garden have benefited from having a lovely garden to visit and relax in.

Families and children have learned about the wild birds which visit their gardens and open areas in their local area. They are learning more as birds build nests in the Friends of Barshaw Bird boxes, and feed in the gardens and surrounding areas.

9. Renfrewshire Christmas Toy Bank

The funding had been applied for for support with our Christmas campaign however then to expand to operate all year. The funding allowed us to do this by paying for a year of storage as well as other items listed below.

We now run at Easter, Halloween and Christmas as well as supporting all year round with birthday gifts.

Teens are always hard to buy for so often we purchase gift cards. They have all been distributed 😊

The money was spent on:

Storage for a year £1,859

Gift cards £2,360

Toys and gifts £859

Easter £1,650

We had put in for Halloween as well however did not get from all partnerships meaning we could not make the funding go as far as to Halloween.

Christmas – 2,510 completed referrals

Over 40 organisations referred to us

Easter – 3,594 big eggs, 1,465 small creme egg type as well as over 1,500 small toys and arts and crafts items.

45 schools

26 nurseries

14 charities and other organisation received eggs from us

Birthday boxes

All social work departments, health visitors, star project, ebi unites, the space project as well as some schools and nurseries have a stock of gifts that they can take from. This means items have already been quarantined at their end. They then fill out a record sheet and we top up their supply when needed.

Other organisation refer to us due to space or working from home.

We were able to provide safe, new toys and gifts of a high quality taking away and stigma. Our referral process also set up parents and carers with other services that we cannot offer – helping us all work together to keep services fair.

The toy bank also relives financial strain or helps stop families getting into debt.

Easter helped with food poverty as well as helping with an Easter egg hunt and another organisations Easter activities for the children that they support.

Businesses act as drop off points. This was a bit stop and start due to Covid however we try to use as many local small businesses as possible which also tends to bring them some new customers helping the local economy.

10. Rockus Community Choir

Due to Covid our Project is postponed to Saturday 4th September 2021. We have not met in person since March 2020 but do meet over Zoom weekly.

We will want the money support and enable to sustain our aim promoting and sustaining mental health.

We plan to perform at Bute Pride on Saturday 4th September 2021.

After this event we will provide photographic evidence along with thoughts from choir members.

We will be purchasing tee shirts, formal ties and scarves. This will help support our policy of inclusion and sustainability of good positive mental health.

At performances in our local community we will be wearing the formal wear.

Sustainable ponchos for wet weather, umbrellas, bus transport to Bute Pride, 60 ferry tickets @ 6.75.

This trip will add to the confidence of our members and will spread the positive word from our Community to their Community.

Our local community will benefit from our performances. For example, we hope to be performing in a fundraiser at Erskine Hospital in September also.

The Choir had approximately 85 members.

11. Renfrewshire Walking Network

Promote the Walking Network through printed booklets and promotional material. These are placed in library's Community Facilities and Doctors surgeries. There was also money for training of new leaders and equipping them with Waterproofs and First Aid kits.

As we work with elderly and vulnerable groups all walks were cancelled due to Covid in March 2020. It is only in the last month that we are gradually restarting the Community Health Walks. This as delayed spending the grant on booklets and promotional material along with training and equipment. It is our intention to spend the grant as intended as things get back to normal.

12. Paisley Barbell Club

Paisley Barbell club requested funding to purchase powerlifting equipment. This would improve our member's technique, ability and to ensure that they are using regulation equipment. The equipment would enable the club to attract and develop more members. It will increase our ability to take powerlifting out into the wider community and hard to reach groups, including young females from deprived areas. Starting in Paisley, this would reach a large number of young people living in SIMD 1 & 2 who may lack access to affordable sporting opportunities. The aim of the club is

to reduce barriers to participation. Currently we are at our maximum capacity and are operating a waiting list. The additional equipment will allow us to expand the sessions on offer in particular to 16-18 year olds as well as females.

The grant would also allow us to provide suitable training for our volunteers and provide them with the confidence and knowledge to deliver sessions.

The grant allowed us to purchase the powerlifting equipment. Due to the recent lockdown we were then able to loan the equipment out to club members so that they were able to maintain a level of training whilst the club and the gyms were shut. This not only benefited their physical health but also their mental wellbeing during this challenging time. Since the gyms have reopened and the club restarted the equipment has allowed us to expand our offer and we will be able to increase this further when restrictions allow.

13.C-Change Dates-n-Mates

The money was a contribution towards direct running costs and was used as a contribution towards the salary of our Community Engagement and Events Worker.

Our outcomes were focused on ensuring adults with learning disabilities:

- have opportunities and support to make and sustain natural friendships and close personal relationships with increased levels of wellbeing and happiness;
- develop the skills and abilities to make decisions about, develop and sustain close personal relationships and friendships;
- are better able to participate in the social, economic and cultural life of Renfrewshire
- have a wide range of rewarding volunteering opportunities which also increase their engagement with the local community.
 - Improved social connection between people with learning disabilities and the wider community through a number of events organised in local amenities in Renfrewshire.

The money was spent on direct staffing costs as originally planned, but our service delivery was different due to Covid-19. We had to cease all in person events and move our events online.

14.Rainbow Turtle

Through education we hoped to help develop informed and active global citizens. The money was mainly spent on salary of an education officer who liaised with schools and other groups to educate and promote Fair Trade.

The money was mainly spent on salary of an education officer who liaised with schools and other groups to educate and promote Fair Trade. We promoted Fair Trade Fortnight and started a podcast about Rainbow Turtle, Paisley and Fair Trade.

We promoted Fair Trade via the Rainbow Turtle shop in Gauze St.

Covid made it difficult to work in person with schools and organisation and the education officer was on furlough for some of the year, so more was done on line. This limited the impact in a difficult year. Previous years are more typical of our impact across Renfrewshire schools and organisations
In the coming year we intend to employ the education officer for more hours.

Rainbow Turtle works across all Renfrewshire and the main use of the funding is to pay part of the salary of a part-time Education Officer who works across all of Renfrewshire and makes all our resources to all schools and organisations across the county. As such it is not easy to break down how much each Local Partnership benefitted individually. All schools were offered online resources, especially during Fair Trade Fortnight.

The Education Officer is responsible for the online presence of Rainbow Turtle and that has been more important in the past year where physical contact was so drastically reduced.

She produced regular newsletters, maintained the website and posted regularly on Twitter and Instagram. Our followers on these platforms increases listed below in 3.2, over 1000 Twitter followers and almost 100 people follow us on Facebook. The charity works closely with the trading arm, Rainbow Turtle Trading and we have 26 active volunteers and more interested in joining.

Schools were closed for most of the year which meant normal business in terms of direct education work with pupils had to be postponed. However, contact with teachers continued, with a Teacher's Blog being set up, so mainly online. A number of events were planned over the year, but by necessity these have been rescheduled.

The Education Officer built up a wide variety of materials and resources, primarily online activities which can be rolled out when circumstances change. Hence, schools will be in a much better position to embed Fair Trade into the curriculum as normal services resume.

Home learning materials were developed for parents and guardians who were educating young people in the home. A wide variety of sessions, activities and digital learning opportunities were offered.

Updating the website and offering information and resources as well as drawing together links to relevant sites, was a key element of the work. These resources were accessed by parents, teachers, partner organisations and interested members of the public who found them useful, engaging and informative. In previous , 'normal' years we were able to more by working with churches and other groups to have Fair Trade stalls, selling and education. We have previously worked with St Mirren's women's football team and using Fair Trade footballs. We have links with Scottish Fair Trade Forum and Just Trading Scotland (JTS) which is based in Paisley.

15.Shopmobility Paisley and District

Local Partnership funding was spent as intended on materials, equipment and volunteer expenses to ensure the provision of a mobility scooter and wheelchair service in Renfrewshire.

During lockdown open hours for the project were longer than normal. A new website was developed and support given to enable people to visit relatives in hospital, access scooters (including advice and maintenance), access counselling services, pick up prescriptions, get out of their home and access food.

16.Paisley Sea Cadets

We received £3,485. A new boiler was installed last month and the nest unit was installed.

We didn't spend anything on stationery. Due to covid restrictions the hall has been shut down since mid march 2020, and is still shut down, so strictly no one directly benefitted.

Our income for 2020/2021 is nil. In a normal year we would have received hall hire income, cadets subscriptions, bag packing income and gift aid. This was nil due to covid. All hall and cadet activities were completely suspended. The income received plugged the gap in our funding. The funding was used 100% as requested

17.Fèis Phàislig

The original grant application was to take a group of 6 young local musicians on our annual Ceilidh Trail tour and allow them to develop their experience of touring and performing.

Unfortunately, due to restrictions around Covid-19, the tour was unable to take place. Our amended application was approved to cover our recruitment costs. This included venue hire and panel fees for our audition process. Although the tour was unable to take place, the recruitment process was a success and we have 6 young musicians waiting to take their place on our next Ceilidh Trail project in late 2021.

Whilst the project is currently waiting to take place later this year, the grant award ensured we were able to recruit 6 of the best young musicians from the area. When they do eventually perform their concerts together, we anticipate reaching at least 500 people within the community through traditional music and Gaelic.

18. Wynd Centre

Child Play Therapy Report for first year

The first year of Project funding, supported by local Community Partnerships, has been positively used to purchase and refurbish a well ventilated play room within the Wynd Centre; and also, to pay for a new staff member's professional training toward a qualification in Play Therapy. Training started in October at a training venue in Edinburgh, offered by the organisation PT UK. Since then, the training has been offered online due to lock-down, but it continues despite the current pandemic.

Staff have been working with one 5-year-old child and three other young people aged 12-15 years of age, The Counselling Manger supports the process of referral by doing play therapy assessments in partnership with the parents or kinship carers of any children referred to the service. There is a case load of 4 child clients over 2 days.

Age of Child or YP	Gender	Number of Sessions
5	Female	5
12	Female	3
14	Female	4
15	Female	4
15	Female	4
15	Male	5

- From October to December 2020, 20 hours of child therapy had been offered and 5 sessions of counselling to a 15-year-old male client. Staff also worked with the adults who referred these 6 children.

Appendix 1

**Paisley North West and Central Local Partnership Budget Monitoring Report
2020/21**

General Grant Fund	£ 55,072 (net of Members expenses)
Total Funding Awards	£52,687
Carry Forward to 2021/22	£2,385

Grant Ref	Organisation	Awarded £	Paid £	Still To Be Paid £
FR1042	Gallowhill Senior Citizens Bowling Club	£1,000	£1,000	
FR1043	Eat Up	£1,000	Declined and Returned	
FR1065	Royal British Legion Pipe Band	£2,685.63	£2,685.63	
FR1068	Meikleriggs Cricket Foundation	£1,326.24	£1,326.24	
FR1073	Rainbow Turtle	£3,000	£3,000	
FR1081	Recovery Across Mental Health	£885	Declined and returned	
FR1086	Paisley People's Archive	£725	£725	
FR1087	Route 66	£931	£931	
FR1089	Paisley Sea Cadets	£495	£495	
FR1090	West End Growing Grounds Association	£3,535	£3,535	
FR1094	Finding Your Feet	£3,315.60	£3,315.60	
FR1095	Renfrewshire Walking Network	£500	£500	
FR1107	Cornerstone	£1,591.48	£1,591.48	
FR1111	Boys Brigade	£428.57	£428.57	
FR1113	Walking Tours On Wheels	£1,978.08	£1,978.08	
FR1125	REEM	£2,216.25	£2,216.25	
FR1126	Home Start Renfrewshire and Inverclyde	£428.75	£428.75	
FR1128	Renfrewshire Toy Bank	£1,215	£1,215	
FR1147	Dates'n'Mates	£3,315.60	£3,315.60	
FR1150	Wynd Centre	£2,000	£2,000	
FR1156	Recovery Across Mental Health	£2,311	£2,311	
FR1159	Impact Arts	£5,770	£5,770	
FR1164	Mossvale Community Church	£3,920	£3,920	

FR1165	Paisley Barbell Association	£1,989.36	£1,989.36	
FR1170	Rockus Community Choir	£1,000	£1,000	
FR1172	Renfrewshire Access Panel	£1,483.93	£1,483.93	
FR1182	Renfrewshire Effort To Empower Minorities	£1,657.80	£1,657.80	
FR1183	Oakshaw Trinity and Friendly Hour	£375	£375	
FR1188	Friends of Barshaw Park	£1,160.46	£1,160.46	
FR1202	Fèis Phàislig	£527.25	£527.25	
FR1208	Double H Lunch Club	£250	£250	
FR1212	Shopmobility Paisley and District	£1,000	£1,000	
FR1215	Paisley and District U3A	£500	£500	

Celebrating Renfrewshire Fund £21,133
Total Funding Awards £21,133
Carry Forward to 2021/22 £0

Grant Ref	Organisation	Awarded £	Paid £	Still To Be Paid £
CE1002	Paisley YMCA	£1,500	£1,500	
CE1008	Twist and Hit Cheerleaders	£1,685.82	£1,685.82	
CE1010	I Am Me	£2,000	£2,000	
CE1011	Darkwood Crew	£2,000	£2,000	
CE1014	Loud'n'Proud	£2,000		£2,000
CE1017	Own Yer Bike	£1,928.28	£1,928.28	
CE1021	Paisley Pirates Supporters Club	£2,000	£2,000	
CE1027	Cameron Dance Group	£1,000	£1,000	
CE1033	Pals of the Privvies	£2,000	£2,000	
CE1035	Right To Dance	£1,078.90	£1,078.90	
CE1042	Renfrewshire Carers	£1,886		£1,886
CE1045	Pachedu	£2,000	£2,000	